

LESSLEY

"Strand Orientation Alignment In Strand
Coating Systems And Methods"
Atty. Docket No. 14120

Appl. No. 10/623,294
Confirm. No. 4116
Examiner B.Lamb

REMARKS

Request For Reconsideration, Informal Matters & Claims Status

The Advisory Office action mailed on 22 September 2006 has been considered carefully. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the amendments above and discussion below.

The amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 filed on 7 September 2006 was not entered.

Claims 14 and 33 were amended to strike the recitation (introduced in Applicants' response filed on 17 May 2006) objected to under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Thus the objection to Claims 14, 18-21 and 33 is moot.

Claims 17, 22-26 and 34 stand allowed.

Claims 14, 17-27, 29-31 and 33-34 are pending.

Allowability of Claims Over Louch

Rejection Summary

Claims 14 and 18-21 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,893,412 (Louch).

Discussion of Claim 14

The Examiner indicated that Claim 14 would distinguish over the art by amending it to indicate that the strand axial orientation aligning member is a pin having an

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axis extending substantially transverse to "... a plane of travel of the strand." Applicants have adopted similar language by reciting that the pin axis extends substantially transverse to an "... axis along which strand is drawn past the adhesive dispensing device." Amended Claim 14 is re-produced below. Louch does not disclose or suggest a

...strand coating system, comprising:
an adhesive dispensing device having an adhesive dispensing orifice;
a strand guide member;
a strand axial orientation aligning member coupled to the adhesive dispensing device,
the strand axial orientation aligning member positioned in substantial alignment with the adhesive dispensing orifice, the strand axial orientation aligning member disposed between the strand guide member and the adhesive dispensing orifice,
the strand axial orientation aligning member is a pin having an axis extending substantially transverse to an axis along which strand is drawn past the adhesive dispensing device.

It is noted moreover that the pins 34 and 35 of Louch do not orient the traveling yarn (10) about the yarn axis. In Louch, the traveling yarn (10) does not ordinarily contact the pins, Louch, col. 5, lines 11-14, and therefore the pins in Louch cannot prevent twisting of the strand about its axis adjacent the nozzle orifice. Louch specifically states that pins 34-37 function to prevent the passage of bulky imperfections (slubs) in the yarn. Louch, col. 5, lines 19-27. Amended Claim 14 is thus patentably distinguished over Louch.

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Allowability of Claims Over McCall & Louch

Rejection Summary

Claim 33 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,984,440 (McCall) in view of Louch.

Discussion of Claim 33

Claim 33 was amended to recite "... the strand axial orientation aligning member having an axial dimension substantially parallel to a direction of the adhesive dispensing orifice...." McCall and Louch do not disclose or suggest a

...strand coating system, comprising:
an adhesive dispensing device having an adhesive dispensing orifice;
a strand guide member;
a strand axial orientation aligning member coupled to the adhesive dispensing device, the strand axial orientation aligning member having an axial dimension substantially parallel to a direction of the fluid dispensing orifice,
the strand axial orientation aligning member positioned in substantial alignment with the adhesive dispensing orifice, the strand axial orientation aligning member disposed between the strand guide member and the adhesive dispensing orifice,
the adhesive dispensing device includes an adhesive dispensing nozzle apparatus coupled to a module,
the strand axial orientation aligning member coupled to the module.

McCall does not disclose a strand axial orientation aligning member for "...the strand axial orientation aligning member having an axial dimension substantially parallel to a direction of the adhesive dispensing orifice...." In McCall, the side walls 32a and 32b form a slot 28 that guides the splayed yarn past the finish dispensing opening 34. Moreover, the side walls 32a and 32b of McCall splay (spread) the yarn as the yarn is

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drawn past an elongated finish dispensing opening 34. McCall, col. 2: 44-51. Thus there is no need to provide a strand guide in McCall as suggested by the Examiner. Claim 33 is thus patentably distinguished over McCall and Louch.

Response to Rejection Under 35 USC 112, First paragraph

Rejection Summary

Claims 27 and 29-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph allegedly because the original specification does not "... teach or suggest that the bottom of the module is non-parallel to he end of the module."

Discussion

Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, original FIGs. 2-4 and 8 clearly and indisputably illustrate the "... the fluid dispensing device (210) coupled to an end of the module (220), the fluid dispensing orifice directed away from a bottom of the module, the bottom of the module non-parallel to the end of the module"

It is unreasonable for the Examiner to suggest that the claims be limited to the specific embodiment illustrated in the drawings, particularly where the language added to the claims to distinguish over the art is supported by the original specification. The illustrative embodiment shows the bottom of the module non-parallel to the end of the module. Contrary to the Examiner's suggestion, there is no disclosure indicating that the end of the module must be perpendicular to the bottom thereof. Those skilled in the art would appreciate that the bottom of the module may be other than non-perpendicular to the end of the end of the module. The significance of the limitation at issue is that the fluid dispensing device is coupled to an end portion of the module that is different from the

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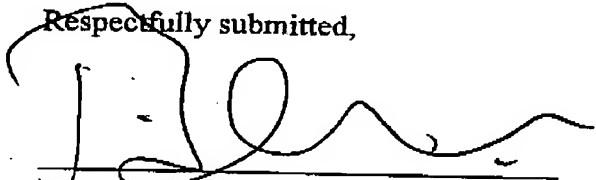
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bottom portion of the module. Kindly withdraw the rejection under 35 USC 112, first paragraph.

Prayer For Relief

In view of the discussion and any amendments above, it is submitted that all pending claims of the present application are in condition for allowance. Kindly withdraw any rejections and objections thereto and allow the claims of the present application to issue as a United States Patent without delay.

Respectfully submitted,


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